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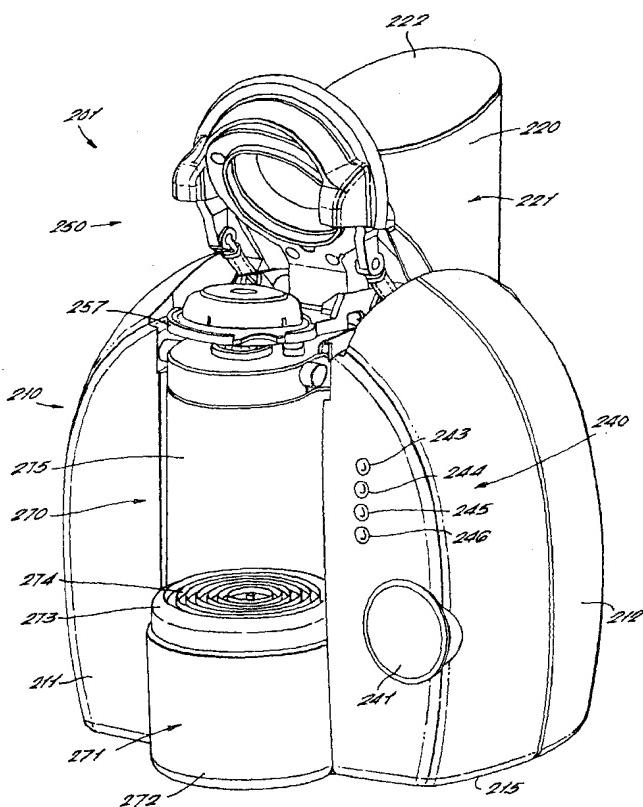
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(54) Title: AN INSERT, A MACHINE AND A SYSTEM FOR THE PREPARATION OF BEVERAGES



(57) Abstract: An insert (400) for use in a beverage preparation machine (201) of a type comprising a brew head (250) suitable for receiving a rigid or semi-rigid cartridge (1). The brew head (250) comprises an upwardly directed inlet (253) for supplying water to the brew head (250) and a downwardly directed outlet (254) for outflow of beverage produced by the machine (201), the insert comprises an upper part (401), a lower part (402) and sealing means (403), the upper (401) and lower (402) parts being moveable between an open configuration in which a quantity of beverage ingredients may be loaded into the insert (400) and a closed configuration in which the upper (401) and lower (402) parts are sealed together by the sealing means (403) to define therebetween a brewing volume containing, in use, the quantity of beverage ingredients, the lower part passes upwardly through the inlet (405) of the insert (400) into the brewing volume and such that beverage produced from the water and the quantity of beverage ingredients passes downwardly through the outlet (404) of the insert to flow out of the outlet (254) of the brew head (250).

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